

Topics

- Zika virus
- What is scientific deep drilling?
- Dengue virus
- Caste census
- Star tortoise
- Mains



By saurabh Pandey



THE HINDU



Saurabh Pandey CSE

Saurabh Pandey CSE

4.8★

77 reviews

1K+

Downloads

3+

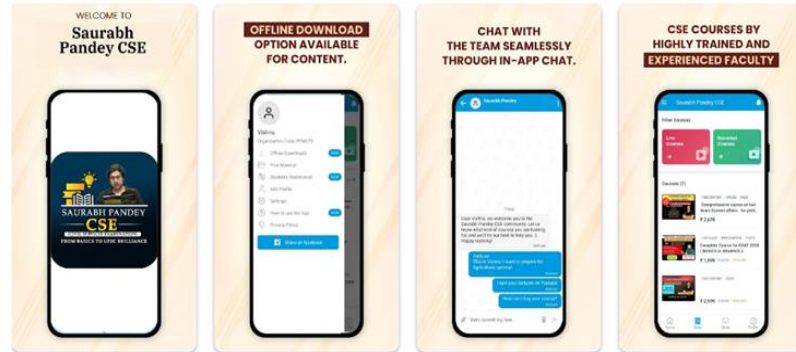
Rated for 3+ ⓘ

Install

Share

Add to wishlist

This app is available for your device



App support ▾

Target Mains -2024/25 -

Q Explain the factor responsible changing population dynamics in india??

**Connect with sir
9057921649**

**send your answer - Saurabh pandey
upsc telegram channel**

MAINS GURUJI

Connect with sir 90579 21649

**UPSC MAINS
MENTORSHIP
PROGRAM**

starting
10th JULY
2024



Batch-1

**BY SAURABH
PANDEY SIR**

**Target 400 + in
GS paper**

**How to approach
Essay ??**

**Only for serious
UPSC ASPIRANTS**

Zika virus: the need to improve surveillance and vector control



Zubeda Hamid

The Zika virus is making the news once again. At least 15 cases, including eight pregnant women, of Zika have been discovered so far in Pune, Maharashtra. In Karnataka, a 74-year-old who had Zika has died. State Health Department officials say the death was caused by other factors. Another suspected case in Karnataka is being investigated as well.

The Pune Municipal Corporation has said it has stepped up surveillance; the Karnataka Health Department has released guidelines on the virus for the public, and both States have urged members of the public to ensure there are no mosquito-breeding sites at their homes.

Meanwhile, the Union Health Ministry has issued an advisory to States to be vigilant; screen pregnant women, and strengthen entomological surveillance and intensify vector-control activities.

The Indian Council of

Medical Research (ICMR) has asked States not only to increase testing for Zika but also to test patients with chikungunya and dengue-like symptoms who test negative for these infections for Zika, as per a news report.

As the monsoon continues over large parts of the country, creating ideal breeding grounds for mosquitoes, and with cases of dengue spiking as well, State administrations and members of the public need to step up mosquito-control measures to prevent transmission of diseases.

Here's a quick FAQ on Zika:

What is Zika virus?

As per the World Health Organization (WHO), Zika virus is a mosquito-borne virus first identified in Uganda in 1947 in a Rhesus macaque monkey, followed by evidence of infection and disease in humans in other African countries in the 1950s. Zika virus occurs through the bite of infected *Aedes* mosquitoes,



Mosquitoes carry dengue, yellow fever, chikungunya and Zika. AP

mainly *Aedes aegypti*, which also transmits dengue and chikungunya. The *Aedes* mosquitoes usually bite during the day. Sexual transmission, transmission from mother to foetus and transfusions of blood and blood products are other routes of transmission.

How it manifests?

Most people infected with the Zika virus do not develop symptoms, the WHO says. Among those who do, they typically start 3-14 days after infection and are generally mild, including rash, fever, conjunctivitis, muscle and joint pain, and headache, which usually

last for 2-7 days.

How is it diagnosed?

Zika virus may be suspected based on symptoms or the fact that the person is living in or visiting areas where Zika transmission has occurred. A diagnosis can only be given after a laboratory test. A recent report in *The Hindu* pointed to gaps in the tracking and surveillance of the virus, highlighting the fact that in March 2023, the Central Drugs Standard Organisation (CDSCO), India's apex agency for diagnostic approvals, confirmed that there was no approved

diagnostic test for Zika. This limitation, the report said, hinders the country's ability to diagnose Zika. At present, samples are generally sent to a few select labs, including the National Institute of Virology, for confirmation. The NIV, a media report indicates, is flooded with samples, leading to delays in the issuing of reports.

What are the ill effects?

Zika virus infection during pregnancy, the WHO says, can cause infants to be born with microcephaly and other congenital malformations and can also cause preterm births and miscarriage. Microcephaly is a condition in which an infant's head is smaller than what is typical for their age and can be caused by the brain not developing properly. An estimated 5-15% of infants born to women infected with Zika virus during pregnancy have evidence of Zika-related complications, as per the WHO. Zika virus infection is also associated with Guillain-Barré

syndrome, neuropathy, and myelitis in adults and children. Guillain-Barré syndrome is a rare condition that causes a person's immune system attacks the peripheral nerves.

Is there a vaccine?

No vaccine is as yet available for the prevention or treatment of Zika virus infection, the WHO says. The development of a Zika vaccine remains an active area of research.

A few studies have shown promising results. In India for instance, several companies are attempting to make a vaccine. In a study published in 2017, Bharat Biotech's "killed Zika virus vaccine" which uses an African strain showed 100% efficacy against mortality and disease in animal studies. Indian Immunologicals Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the National Dairy Development Board said earlier this year that it was also working on developing a vaccine.

(zubeda.h@thehindu.co.in)

What is Zika virus?

- As per the World Health Organization (WHO), Zika virus is a mosquito-borne virus first identified in Uganda in 1947 in a Rhesus macaque monkey, followed by evidence of infection and disease in humans in other African countries in the 1950s.
- Zika virus occurs through the bite of infected Aedes mosquitoes, mainly *Aedes aegypti*, which also transmits dengue and chikungunya.

- **The Aedes mosquitoes usually bite during the day.**
- **Sexual transmission, transmission from mother to foetus and transfusions of blood and blood products are other routes of transmission**



- **No vaccine is as yet available for the prevention or treatment of Zika virus infection, the WHO says. The development of a Zika vaccine remains an active area of research.**

ALL ABOUT ZIKA VIRUS DISEASE

Zika virus disease is an emerging viral disease transmitted through the bite of an infected Aedes mosquito

Symptoms

➤ Most of those infected with Zika virus disease either remain asymptomatic or show mild symptoms of fever, rash, conjunctivitis, body ache, joint pain

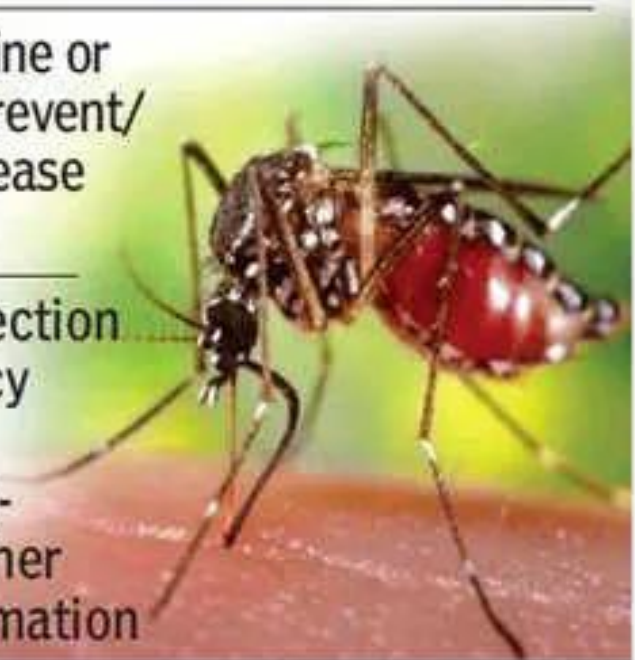
➤ Severe forms of disease requiring hos-

pitalization is uncommon and fatalities are rare

➤ There is no vaccine or drug available to prevent/treat Zika virus disease at present



➤ Zika virus infection during pregnancy can cause infants to be born with microcephaly and other congenital malformation





What is scientific deep drilling?

- **Scientific deep-drilling is the enterprise of strategically digging boreholes to analyse deeper parts of the earth's crust.**
- **It offers opportunities and access to study earthquakes and expands our understanding of the planet's history, rock types, energy resources, life forms, climate change patterns, and more.**
- **The Borehole Geophysics Research Laboratory (BGRL) in Karad, Maharashtra, is a specialised institute under the Ministry of Earth Sciences mandated to execute India's sole scientific deep-drilling programme.**



- Under BGRL, the aim is to drill the earth's crust to a depth of 6 km and conduct studies to help expand the understanding of reservoir-triggered earthquakes in the Koyna-Warna region of Maharashtra.
- This region has been experiencing frequent earthquakes since the Shivaji Sagar Lake, or the Koyna Dam, was impounded in 1962.
- BGRL's 3-km-deep **pilot borehole in Koyna** is complete; **the Ministry of Earth Sciences is committed to reaching a depth of 6 km**

- **Benefits of a deep-drilling mission Earthquakes are challenging to study.**
- **Surface-level observations can't make complete sense of them.**
- **The recurrent earthquakes in Koyna are synchronous with the dam's loading and unloading during the monsoon and post-monsoon periods, offering an opportunity to widen our understanding of earthquakes.**
- **However, making observations inside the earth is a different ball game.**

- **Scientifically drilled boreholes can be a hub of direct, unique in situ experiments and observations and monitor a region's fault lines and seismic behaviour.**
- **They also provide exact and fundamental knowledge of the composition of the earth's crust, structure, and processes, and help validate models based on surface studies.**
- **Thus, it can inform a range of societal problems related to geohazards and geo-resources.**

Why are dengue cases on the rise worldwide?

Are urbanisation and climate change fuelling dengue spread in the world?

Serena Josephine M.

The story so far:

Dengue cases have surged in India, with Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu seeing significant increases.

According to data published by the National Centre for Vector Borne Diseases Control, as of April 30, India recorded 19,447 cases and 16 deaths, with Kerala and Tamil Nadu leading in numbers. Karnataka, initially reporting 2,503 cases, has now recorded 7,840 cases and seven deaths as of July 10, with 293 new cases reported on that day alone.

What is the global situation of dengue?

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), as of April 30, over 7.6 million cases of dengue were reported in 2024. This included 3.4 million confirmed cases, over 16,000 severe cases and over 3,000 deaths. In an update on the global scenario on May 30, it said that 90 countries have known active dengue

transmission, adding that “not all of which have been captured in formal reporting”.

The WHO noted that at least five countries, including India, were grappling with the onset of monsoon season, which created suitable conditions for the breeding and survival of *Aedes* mosquito. Urbanisation and population movements have also played a pivotal role in the increasing burden in the region.

Dengue is endemic in more than 100 countries in the WHO regions of Africa, the Americas, the Eastern Mediterranean, South-East Asia and Western Pacific. The Americas, South-East Asia and Western Pacific regions were the most seriously affected, with Asia accounting for around 70% of the global disease burden. However, it also noted that dengue is spreading to new areas in Europe, the Eastern Mediterranean and South America.

How does dengue spread and how is it treated?

Dengue virus is transmitted to humans

through the bite of infected mosquitoes, with the primary vector that transmits the disease being *Aedes aegypti*. While cases are mostly asymptomatic or mild, some may develop severe dengue that could include shock, severe bleeding or organ impairment. According to the National Guidelines for Clinical Management of Dengue Fever, dengue presents as an acute febrile illness lasting two to seven days, characterised by symptoms such as headache, retro-orbital pain, myalgia, arthralgia, rash, and hemorrhagic manifestations. In those without any warning signs or complications, dengue is managed through symptomatic and supportive treatment.

What are the emerging patterns in dengue?

Researchers and public health experts have been closely monitoring the emerging patterns in dengue.

According to the WHO, factors contributing to the increasing risk of dengue epidemics include the changing distribution of the *Aedes aegypti* vector,

urbanisation, and human activities that create conducive environments for vector-host interaction, and climate change-induced shifts in weather patterns.

In the article ‘Prevention and Control Strategies to Counter the Dengue Cyclical Trend in Tamil Nadu’, published in the Tamil Nadu Journal of Public Health and Medical Research, public health officials said that the first epidemic of clinical dengue-like illness was recorded in erstwhile Madras in 1780. Dengue virus was isolated in India during 1945 for the first time. The first evidence of the occurrence of dengue fever in the country was reported in 1956 from Vellore district in the State, they said.

They said the infection has spread to all geographic regions due to rapid increase in urbanisation, expanding travel patterns and climatic changes.

Tamil Nadu, they said, has witnessed outbreaks of dengue infection once every five years in the past decade with the last outbreak occurring in 2017.

The State’s Director of Public Health and Preventive Medicine T. S. Selvavinayagam pointed out seasonal variation every five years, probably due to the building up of susceptible populations. “We are seeing cases throughout the year. There are more cases in a short time if control measures are not taken on time. As for Tamil Nadu, we expect cases to rise in the coming months. Surveillance and immediate response are critical. Along with this, community empowerment and education is needed,” he said.

THE GIST

▼
Dengue cases have surged in Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu, with significant increases reported

▼
Dengue is endemic in over 100 countries, with the Americas, Southeast Asia, and the Western Pacific regions most affected.

▼
Factors contributing to dengue epidemics include changing mosquito distribution, urbanisation, human activities, and climate change.

- **The WHO noted that at least five countries, including India, were grappling with the onset of monsoon season, which created suitable conditions for the breeding and survival of Aedes mosquito.**
- **Urbanisation and population movements have also played a pivotal role in the increasing burden in the region.**
- **Dengue is endemic in more than 100 countries in the WHO regions of Africa, the Americas, the Eastern Mediterranean, South-East Asia and Western Pacific.**

- **The Americas, South-East Asia and Western Pacific regions were the most seriously affected, with Asia accounting for around 70% of the global disease burden.**
- **However, it also noted that dengue is spreading to new areas in Europe, the Eastern Mediterranean and South America.**

How does dengue spread and how is it treated?

- **Dengue virus is transmitted to humans through the bite of infected mosquitoes, with the primary vector that transmits the disease being *Aedes aegypti***



According to the WHO, factors contributing to the increasing risk of dengue epidemics include the changing distribution of the *Aedes aegypti* vector, urbanisation, and human activities that create conducive environments for vector-host interaction, and climate change-induced shifts in weather patterns.

The case for a caste Census

The Census Act, 1948 should be amended to make enumeration by caste mandatory, instead of leaving it to the whims of the Union executive. Such data can be collected as part of the regular Census, with a few pertinent queries added to the questionnaire

FULL CONTEXT

K. Ashok Yardhan Shetty

Reter Drucker famously said, "Only what gets measured gets managed." The problems of social groups that have been historically discriminated against (be it by caste, race, religion, gender, disability etc.) cannot be resolved without collecting data group-identity wise. Doing so is not a capitulation to identity politics but a vital step towards informed policy-making and inclusive development.

For instance, Germany's census does not enumerate people by race. This has worked to the disadvantage of its Black people who started a private, country-wide, online survey called Afrozensus in 2020. Its results showed that anti-Black racism is widespread and institutionally entrenched in Germany.

Applying Cicero's test of *qui bono* (who benefits?), it can be said that the demand for enumeration generally emanates from the victims of discrimination and is resisted by vested interests.

Why a caste Census?

A caste-Census is crucial for four reasons – one, it is a social imperative. Caste continues to be a foundational social construct in India. Only about 5% of Indian marriages were inter-caste as of 2012-14. The use of caste surnames and caste marks is still widespread. Residential segregation by caste persists. Choices of candidates for elections and ministers for cabinets continue to be dictated by caste considerations.

Two, it is a legal imperative. Constitutionally-mandated policies of social justice which include reservations in electoral constituencies, education and public employment cannot be pursued effectively without detailed caste-wise data. Even though the Constitution uses the word class instead of caste, various rulings of the Supreme Court have held caste as a 'relevant criterion', 'sole criterion' or 'dominant criterion' for defining a backward class, and have demanded detailed caste-wise data for upholding reservation policies.

Three, it is an administrative imperative. Detailed caste-wise data is necessary to avoid/correct wrongdoings, inclusions of undeserving castes and exclusions of deserving castes, and to guard against a few dominant castes in a reserved category crowding out others. It is also needed for sub-categorising castes within a reserved category and to determine the income/wealth criterion for the creamy layer.

Four, it is a moral imperative. The absence of detailed caste-wise data has helped a coterie of elites, among upper castes and dominant Other Backward Classes (OBCs), to corner a disproportionate share of the nation's assets, incomes, and positions of power.

Censuses in British India between 1881 and 1931 enumerated all castes. In the first census conducted after Independence in 1951, the Government of India (GOI) ordered that caste should not be enumerated. However, an exception was made for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) which have been enumerated in every Census since 1951. In 1961, the GOI advised States to conduct their own surveys and draw up State-specific OBC lists if they so desired. There was no reservation for OBCs in the Centre and its undertakings then.

The arguments against caste Census
There are multiple views against the caste Census. These include:



Number game: Supporters celebrate the release of Bihar's caste report, in Patna, in 2023. (PI)

First, that it is socially divisive. India's social divisions predate Census efforts by nearly 3,000 years. The Census counts of the SCs and STs since 1951 have not led to any conflicts among these castes or tribes. Further, India's Census enumerates religion, language, and region which are as divisive as caste, if not more. Casteism will not wither away by not counting caste in the Census, any more than communalism, and regionalism will disappear by not enumerating religion, language and region.

Second, that it is an administrative nightmare. Unlike race which is a fuzzy concept, but is still enumerated in many countries such as the U.S., there is little or no ambiguity about anyone's caste. The GOI has been able to smoothly enumerate 1,234 castes in the SC category and 698 tribes in the ST category. Therefore, it is difficult to understand why the enumeration of the 4,000-odd other castes, most of which are State-specific, should pose an intractable problem.

Third, that it would fuel demands for increased reservations. On the contrary, the availability of caste-wise Census data would help curb arbitrary demands from caste groups and capricious decision-making by governments. Policy makers would be able to objectively debate and address the claims of, say, the Marathas, Patidars, Jats, or any other groups for reservations. But governments prefer fuzzy data because it gives them the latitude to implement reservations arbitrarily for electoral considerations.

The case for OBC inclusion in Census

Like the SCs and STs, the Constitution permits reservation for the OBCs in the education (Articles 15(4) and public employment (Article 16(4)). After the implementation of the Mandal Commission (Articles 15(4) and public employment (Article 16(4)). After the implementation of the Mandal Commission recommendations, the OBCs

enjoy reservations in the Central government and its undertakings as well. In the *Indro Sawhney* case (1992), the Supreme Court ruled that the OBC list, based on the 1931 Census, should be revised periodically.

The OBCs do not have reservation in electoral constituencies for MPs and MLAs like the SCs and the STs. But after the 73rd and 74th amendments (1993), the Constitution provides for reservations in electoral constituencies in panchayats and municipalities only for SCs and STs but also for OBCs (Articles 243D(6) and 243T(6)). For this, caste-wise, area-wise Census data of the OBCs is essential. Therefore, the GOI should have enumerated the OBCs at least in the 2001 Census. But it did not.

Whenever States like Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Odisha and Jharkhand tried to implement reservations for the OBCs in elections to local bodies, the High Courts and the Supreme Court stayed the same, on the ground that there was no caste-wise data of OBCs. While one arm of the State – the judiciary – demands caste-wise data to uphold reservations, another – the executive – has avoided enumerating the very same data.

However, the 10% reservation for economically weaker sections (EWS) among those other than the OBCs, SCs and STs (effectively, the upper castes) was upheld by the Supreme Court in 2022 despite the absence of any supporting empirical data. In view of the EWS reservation, the Census should not enumerate all castes including the upper castes as it did till 1931.

While Census is a Union subject, the Collection of Statistics Act, 2008 empowers States and even local bodies to gather the necessary statistics. So, individual States can always do Caste

surveys like Karnataka (2015) and Bihar (2022) did. But Census data carries more authority and is less contested. The government's reluctance to enumerate caste as part of the Census is legally indefensible and administratively unwise.

How an attempt at caste Census failed
After considerable lobbying by OBC leaders, in 2010, the Parliament passed a unanimous resolution (with both Congress and BJP on board) calling for caste to be enumerated as part of the 2011 Census. As per the 1931 Census when caste was last enumerated, there were 4,147 castes in India apart from the depressed classes/un-touchables (as they were called then). Unfortunately, the Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC-2011) was poorly designed and executed, throwing up a ludicrous figure of 46 lakh castes and the results were never released.

The SECC-2011 failure was because of the fact that it was not conducted under the Census Act, 1948 as the Act was not amended to include caste as a parameter. It was conducted through the Union Ministers of Rural Development and Urban Development which did not have prior experience of conducting sociological/anthropological surveys. Additionally, the questionnaire was poorly designed and asked open-ended questions about castes. The enumerators couldn't distinguish between genuine castes, alternative caste names, larger caste groups, sub-castes, surnames, clan names, gotras, etc. In contrast, the Bihar government's Caste Survey in 2023, provided enumerators the list of 214 caste names specific to Bihar, with the 215th category labelled "Other Castes" and came up with better results.

Despite the unanimous Parliamentary resolution of 2010, the Central government announced in 2023 that it would not enumerate caste as part of the next Census. It reiterated this stand before the Supreme Court in a case filed by the Maharashtra government seeking a direction to the Centre to enumerate OBCs in the 2021 Census. The Supreme Court judgment dismissing the Maharashtra government's plea in December 2023 is questionable, considering its own past rulings.

What is the way forward?

Learning from the SECC-2011 failures, the Census Act, 1948 should be amended to make enumeration by caste mandatory instead of leaving it to the whims of the Union executive. Caste should be enumerated as part of the regular Census by the Census Commissioner only, with a few pertinent questions added to the questionnaire. Additionally, the government should enlist sociological/anthropological experts to draw up a draft list of castes specific to each State, publish the draft list online, invite suggestions and comments from the public before finalising it, and give only that list to the enumerators. The questionnaire should be designed as to ask the name of the caste, larger caste group, and the caste surname of the respondent. Internet-enabled hand-held devices should be used with these details and limiting the enumerator's role to one of choosing the correct option will make the task easier and foolproof.

Interested States must move the apex Court to review its 2023 judgment. It is far-catch to implement OBC reservation based on 1931 Census data and EWS reservation with no empirical data. The next Census must enumerate caste.

The writer is former IAS officer of Tamil Nadu and former Vice-Chancellor, Indian Maritime University, Chennai.

THE GIST

▼ The problems of social groups that have been historically discriminated against (be it by caste, race, religion, gender, disability etc.) cannot be resolved without collecting data group-identity wise.

▼ The availability of caste-wise Census data would help curb arbitrary demands from caste groups and capricious decision-making by governments. Policy makers would be able to objectively debate and address the claims of, say, the Marathas, Patidars, Jats, or any other groups for reservations.

▼ The government should enlist sociological/anthropological experts to draw up a draft list of castes together with alternative caste names and the names of sub-castes and larger caste group specific to each State, publish the draft list online, invite suggestions and comments from the public before finalising it, and give only that list to the enumerators.



K. ASHOK YARDHAN SHETTY
CSE
www.kashokshetty.com



Why a caste Census?

- **A caste Census is crucial for four reasons — one, it is a social imperative. Caste continues to be a foundational social construct in India. Only about 5% of Indian marriages were inter-caste as of 2011-12.**
- **The use of caste surnames and caste marks is still widespread. Residential segregation by caste persists.**
- **Choices of candidates for elections and ministers for Cabinets continue to be dictated by caste considerations.**



- **Two, it is a legal imperative.**
- **Constitutionally-mandated policies of social justice which include reservations in electoral constituencies, education and public employment cannot be pursued effectively without detailed caste-wise data.**
- **Even though the Constitution uses the word class instead of caste, various rulings of the Supreme Court have held caste as a ‘relevant criterion’, ‘sole criterion’ or ‘dominant criterion’ for defining a backward class, and have demanded detailed caste-wise data for upholding reservation policies.**

- **Three, it is an administrative imperative.**
- **Detailed caste-wise data is necessary to avoid/correct wrongful inclusions of undeserving castes and exclusions of deserving castes, and to guard against a few dominant castes in a reserved category crowding out others.**
- **It is also needed for sub-categorising castes within a reserved category and to determine the income/wealth criterion for the creamy layer.**



- **Four, it is a moral imperative.**
- **The absence of detailed caste-wise data has helped a coterie of elites, among upper castes and dominant Other Backward Classes (OBCs), to corner a disproportionate share of the nation's assets, incomes, and positions of power.**
- **Censuses in British India between 1881 and 1931 enumerated all castes.**
- **In the first Census conducted after Independence in 1951, the Government of India (GOI) ordered that caste should not be enumerated.**
- **However, an exception was made for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) which have been enumerated in every Census**

The arguments against caste Census

- **There are multiple views against the caste Census.**
- **These include:- First, that it is socially divisive. India's social divisions predate Census efforts by nearly 3,000 years.**
- **The Census counts of the SCs and STs since 1951 have not led to any conflicts among these castes or tribes.**
- **Further, India's Census enumerates religion, language, and region which are as divisive as caste, if not more.**



- **Second, that it is an administrative nightmare.**
- **Third, that it would fuel demands for increased reservations.**

- **The problems of social groups that have been historically discriminated against (be it by caste, race, religion, gender, disability etc.) cannot be resolved without collecting data group-identity wise.**
- **The availability of caste-wise Census data would help curb arbitrary demands from caste groups and capricious decision-making by governments.**
- **Policy makers would be able to objectively debate and address the claims of, say, the Marathas, Patidars, Jats, or any other groups for reservations.**

- **The government should enlist sociological/anthropological experts to draw up a draft list of castes (together with alternative caste names and the names of sub-castes and larger caste groups) specific to each State, publish the draft list online, inviting suggestions and comments from the public before finalising it, and give only that list to the enumerators.**

Saving the 'stars'



Indian star tortoises that were rescued during a raid on a house in Ampang in Malaysia's Selangor State. Malaysian authorities arrested six members of an international crime ring known as the "Ninja Turtle Gang" and seized about 200 smuggled tortoises and turtles. AFP

Indian star tortoise (*Geochelone elegans*)

- The Indian star tortoise (*Geochelone elegans*) is a threatened **tortoise species** native to **India, Pakistan** and **Sri Lanka** where it inhabits dry areas and scrub forest.
- It has been listed as **Vulnerable** on the **IUCN Red List** since 2016, as the population is thought to comprise more than 10,000 individuals, but with a declining trend. It is threatened by **habitat loss** and **poaching** for the illegal wildlife trade.

- It was upgraded to **CITES Appendix I** in 2019 by full consensus among all member states, giving it the highest level of international protection from commercial trade.
- Conservation group **TRAFFIC** found 6,040 were seized globally that were intended to be sold in the pet trade.
- Currently they are commonly bred in many countries to be sold as pets.

ATTENTION!! BATCH FOR 2025/26 LAUNCHED

connect with sir -9057921649

CURRENT AFFAIRS PLUS (FOR UPSC 2025)



INCLUDES

- PIB Analysis with pdf
- Down to earth
- physics.org
- science daily
- Major newspapers
- With practice test and Mains Mock

starting
1st may
2024



**BY SAURABH
PANDEY SIR**

MAINS GURUJI

Connect with sir 90579 21649

**UPSC MAINS
MENTORSHIP
PROGRAM**

starting
10th JULY
2024



Batch-1

**BY SAURABH
PANDEY SIR**

**Target 400 + in
GS paper**

**How to approach
Essay ??**

**Only for serious
UPSC ASPIRANTS**

Link in description

Msg -9057921649

Download -
saurabh pandey
cse app

NEW BATCH LAUNCHED

Connect with sir 90579 21649

**Complete Agriculture
optional**

Paper 1 and Paper 2

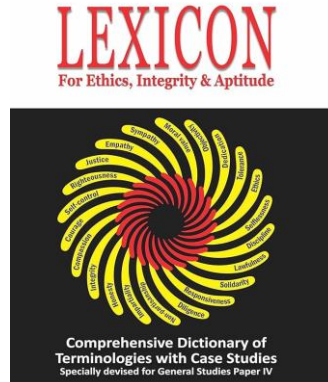
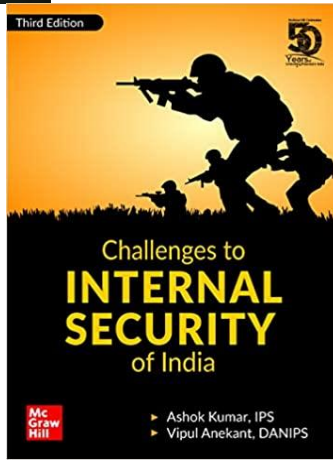
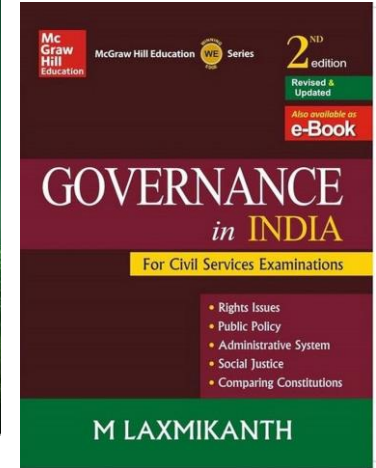
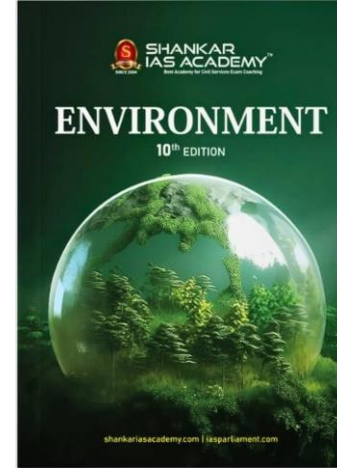
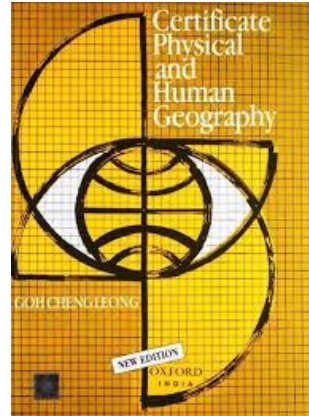
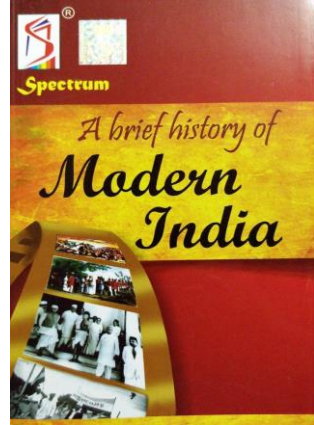
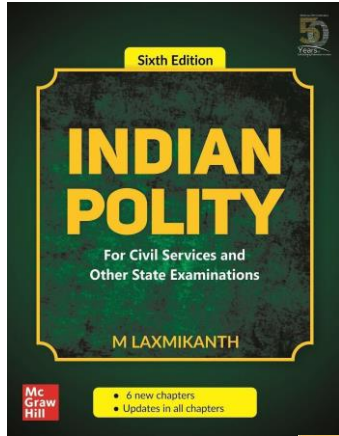
Live classes

Starting 1st July

Score 300+



ALL Advance books for upsc IN ONE COURSE



Starting 1st june

Visit -

saurabhpandeyupsc.com

Msg - 9057921649

COMBO COURSE FOR UPSC 2025

ALL Advance books for upsc IN ONE COURSE

Starting 1st july
Visit -
saurabhpandeyupsc.com
Msg - 9057921649



**Save Rs
1000/-**

**ATTENTION!! BATCH FOR 2025/26
LAUNCHED**
connect with sir -9057921649

**CURRENT AFFAIRS PLUS
(FOR UPSC 2025)**

INCLUDES

- PIB Analysis with pdf
- Down to earth
- physics.org
- science daily
- Major newspapers
- With practice test and Mains Mock

starting
1st may
2024

**BY SAURABH
PANDEY SIR**

Scan - to get free content



The hindu session pdf

Download the hindu session pdf

Telegram link in description box

Download the hindu pdf - <https://t.me/gesreporter>



Connect with sir
9057921649

Target Mains -2024/25 -

Q Explain the factor responsible changing population dynamics in india??

**Connect with sir
9057921649**

**send your answer - Saurabh pandey
upsc telegram channel**

